also reports that a number of units have not contracted for fresh supplies of phosphoric acid and ammonia.

In dealing with this situation, Government are keen to ensure supplies at affordable prices to farmers. Accordingly, the focus is on helping the industry to bring down their cost of production and become more competitive. Government has already abolished customs duty on import of phosphoric acid. Government has also announced a scheme of refund of customs duty paid on capital goods, as also a concession of 3 percent in interest rate on term loans, provided that the net interest rate after adjustment of this concession remains at a minimum of 12 per cent. These concessions are available to all the fertilizer plants commissioned on or after 1-1-1991. It is also reported that the phosphatic industry has filed an application for initiating anti-dumping proceedings in respect of imported DAP.

Import of Nitrogen Fertilizers

411. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to import nitrogen fertilisers on a large scale doubling the quantity contracted in 1992-93;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the quantity proposed to be imported, the estimated amount likely to be spent on the imports in foreign exchange as against the imports made in 1992-93, the estimated gap between demand and supply of urea during 1993-94 and the estimated subsidy for imported urea in 1993-94;

(c) whether Government propose to decontrol urea prices; and

(d) if so, the decision if any, taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) and (b) Nitrogenous fertilizers are imported to bridge the gap between demand and indigenous availability. The quantity of nitrogenous fertilizers to be imported during 1993-94 would depend upon several factors such as rain fall, indigenous production carry-over stock and demand as also import of other phosphatic fertilizers containing nitrogen such as DAP which is allowed to be imported freely. The foreign exchange to be increased on these imports will depend upon international prices of fertilizers which vary from time to time. However, imports of urea (including imports under foreign aid) during 1992-93 amounted to 18.57 lakh tonnes involving C&F value of Rs. 764.17 crores. A net amount of Rs. 500 crores has been proposed in the budget for 1993-94 for subsidy on imported urea.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal at present under consideration to decontrol urea prices.

Misuse of Money collected under DPEA

412. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the amount collected under DPEA is being misutilized;

(b) what is total amount collected till today under DPEA and what are the details of companies from whom amount has been recovered.

(c) what are the details under which amount was paid and what is the balance as on 31st March, 1993;

(d) whether it is a fact that amounts due from public sector units have not been calculated;

(e) if so, the reason therefor, and

(f) what steps have been taken to incorporate the provisions for utilization of DPEA funds in the price control order ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) No amount collected under DPEA has been misutilized.

(b) and (c) The amount collected in 29 cases is Rs. 17.89 crores so far, the details of which have been given in reply to questions answered in the Rajya Sabha from time to time.

(d) No Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Necessary provisions already exists in para 17(2) (a) and (b) of DPCO 1979 and in para 14(2) of DPCO, 1987.

Escalation in Project Cost of Haldia Petrochemicals

413. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Industrial Development Bank of India has informed the West Bengal Government that an escalation in the project cost of Haldia Petrochemicals will have to be financed without recourse to the financial institutions/ banks;

(b) whether this stipulation has put the future of Haldia Petrochemicals Project in jeopardy; and

(c) what action is being taken by Government to execute the project in time ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) to (c) Haldia Petrochemicals Limited is a joint sector company with West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation and the Tata Tea Limited and Associates. The company as an entity is taking necessary steps for implementation of the project.

Persons Apprehended in connection with Bhopal Gas Tragedy

414. CHOWDHARY HARI SINGH : SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE :

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons apprehended in connection with Bhopal Gas Tragedy that took a heavy toll of lives in December, 1984 gas leakage;

(b) the steps taken by Government to pay the compensation to the victims as per the Supreme Court's judgement; and

(c) what was the total amount of compensation paid so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDURADO FALEIRO) : (a) Nine.

(b) and (c) Forty Courts of Deputy Commissioners have been sanctioned. Thirty two courts have already started functioning. A total of 2784 cases have been adjudicated until 31-3-1993. The total compensation paid so far is Rs. 329.84 lakhs.

Shortage of Drugs for the Treatment of Tuberculosis

415. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that there is an acute shortage of drugs meant for the treatment of Tuberculosis in the country particularly in Punjab and Bihar;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what action Government have taken or propose to take to make drugs for treatment of Tuberculosis easily available in the market and in the TB hospitals which treat the poor TB patients throughout the country;